

AMENDMENTS**Listing of Claims**

The following listing of claims replaces all previous listings or versions thereof:

1. (Currently amended) An isolated antimicrobial peptide comprising the amino acid sequence: ~~MRHHYLLFALLFLFLVPVPGHGGHINTLQKYYCRVRGGRCAVLSCLPKKEEQI~~
~~GKCSTRGRKCCRRKK~~ (of SEQ ID NO: 2[[D]]), wherein said antimicrobial peptide is contained in a pharmaceutical composition formulated for ~~topical~~oral administration.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Previously presented) The antimicrobial peptide of claim 1, wherein said ~~pharmaceutically acceptable~~pharmaceutical composition includes a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
- 4-10. (Canceled)
11. (Currently amended) A method of inhibiting growth of a microbe comprising introducing into an environment an antimicrobial peptide comprising the amino acid sequence: ~~MRHHYLLFALLFLFLVPVPGHGGHINTLQKYYCRVRGGRCAVLSCLPKKEEQI~~
~~GKCSTRGRKCCRRKK~~ (of SEQ ID NO: 2[[D]]), SEQ ID NO: 3 or SEQ ID NO: 4, wherein said antimicrobial peptide is contained in a pharmaceutical composition formulated for ~~topical~~oral administration.
12. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein said peptide is introduced in a composition capable of sustaining the antimicrobial properties of said peptide in said environment.
13. (Canceled)

14. (Original) The method of claim 11, further comprising introducing an additional antimicrobial agent into said environment.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein said antimicrobial peptide is introduced before said additional antimicrobial agent.

16. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein said antimicrobial peptide and said additional antimicrobial agent are introduced concurrently.

17. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein said antimicrobial peptide is introduced after said additional antimicrobial agent.

18. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein said additional antimicrobial agent is selected from the group consisting of a protein synthesis inhibitor, a cell wall growth inhibitor, a cell membrane synthesis inhibitor, a nucleic acid synthesis inhibitor, and a competitive inhibitor.

19. (Currently amended) A method of inhibiting growth of a microbe in a host comprising administering to said host an antimicrobial peptide comprising the amino acid sequence: ~~MRHLYLLFALLFLFLVPVPGHGGIINTLQKYYCRVRGGRCVLSCLPKKEQIGKCSTRGR~~
~~KCCRRKK~~ (of SEQ ID NO: 2[[]], SEQ ID NO: 3 or SEQ ID NO: 4, wherein said antimicrobial peptide is contained in a pharmaceutical composition formulated for ~~topical~~oral administration.

20. (Original) The method of claim 19, further comprising administering an additional antimicrobial agent.

21. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein said antimicrobial peptide is administered before said additional antimicrobial agent.

22. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein said antimicrobial peptide and said additional antimicrobial agent are administered concurrently.

23. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein said antimicrobial peptide is administered after said additional antimicrobial agent.

24. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein said additional antimicrobial agent is selected from the group consisting of a protein synthesis inhibitor, a cell wall growth inhibitor, a cell membrane synthesis inhibitor, a nucleic acid synthesis inhibitor, and a competitive inhibitor.

25-27. (Canceled)

28. (Currently amended) An isolated antimicrobial peptide comprising the amino acid sequence: ~~TLQKYYCRVRGGRC~~AVLSCLPKEEQIGKCSTRGRKCCRRKK (of SEQ ID NO: 3[D]), wherein said antimicrobial peptide is contained in a pharmaceutical composition formulated for ~~topical~~oral administration.

29. (Currently amended) The antimicrobial peptide of claim 28, wherein said antimicrobial peptide comprises the amino acid sequence:

~~GI~~NTLQKYYCRVRGGRCAVLSCLPKEEQIGKCSTRGRKCCRRKK (of SEQ ID NO: 4[D]).

30. (Canceled)

31. (Currently amended) The antimicrobial peptide of claim 28, wherein said ~~pharmaceutically acceptable~~pharmaceutical composition includes a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

32-55. (Canceled)